

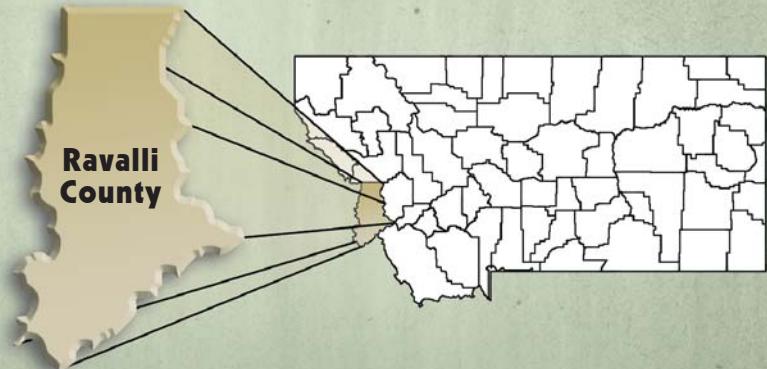
Demographic & Economic Information for

# Ravalli County



February 2009

*Photo courtesy of Donnie Sexton, Travel Montana*



**Montana Department  
of Labor and Industry**  
**WORKFORCE SERVICES DIVISION**



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# Ravalli County

Also known as the “Bitterroot Valley,” Ravalli County lies between the Sapphire Mountains on the East and the Bitterroot Mountains on the West. Ravalli is Montana’s 7th most populous county with an estimated 40,396 residents as of July 1st, 2007. Hamilton, the county seat, is the state’s 19th largest city with a population of 4,691 in 2007.<sup>1</sup> Other towns in Ravalli County include Stevensville, Darby, and Pinedale. I

Ravalli County contains 1,850 square miles of public forest lands, which has played a significant role in its economic development. Historically, these lands have primarily contributed to the economy through lumber and wood products manufacturing. Today, these public forests are considered an important draw for tourism and migration to the area. Lumber and wood products manufacturing still play an important role, however, and Ravalli County was one of only a few counties to experience growth in this economic subsector in recent years.<sup>2</sup> Another draw to the area is its proximity to Missoula. Estimates suggest that roughly 15 to 20 percent of employed Ravalli County residents work in Missoula County.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program*

## Resources for Ravalli County

### Chamber of Commerce

**Bitterroot Valley Chamber of Commerce**  
105 E. Main Street  
Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-2400  
E-mail: [localinfo@bvchamber.com](mailto:localinfo@bvchamber.com)  
Website: [bitterrootvalleychamber.com](http://bitterrootvalleychamber.com)

### Economic Development

**Ravalli County Economic Development Authority**  
105 E. Main Street, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-375-9416, E-mail: [julie@rceda.org](mailto:julie@rceda.org)  
Website: [rceda.org](http://rceda.org)

**Business Expansion And Retention (BEAR)**  
Contact: Julie Foster  
Phone: (406) 375-9416  
E-mail: [julie@rceda.org](mailto:julie@rceda.org)

### Newspapers

**Ravalli Republic**  
232 W. Main, Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-3300  
E-mail: [publisher@ravallirepublic.com](mailto:publisher@ravallirepublic.com)  
Website: [www.ravallinews.com](http://www.ravallinews.com)

### The Bitterroot Star

215 Main, Stevensville, MT 59870  
Ph: 406-777-3928  
E-mail: [brstar@montana.com](mailto:brstar@montana.com)  
Website: [www.bitterrootstar.com](http://www.bitterrootstar.com)

### Job Service Workforce Center

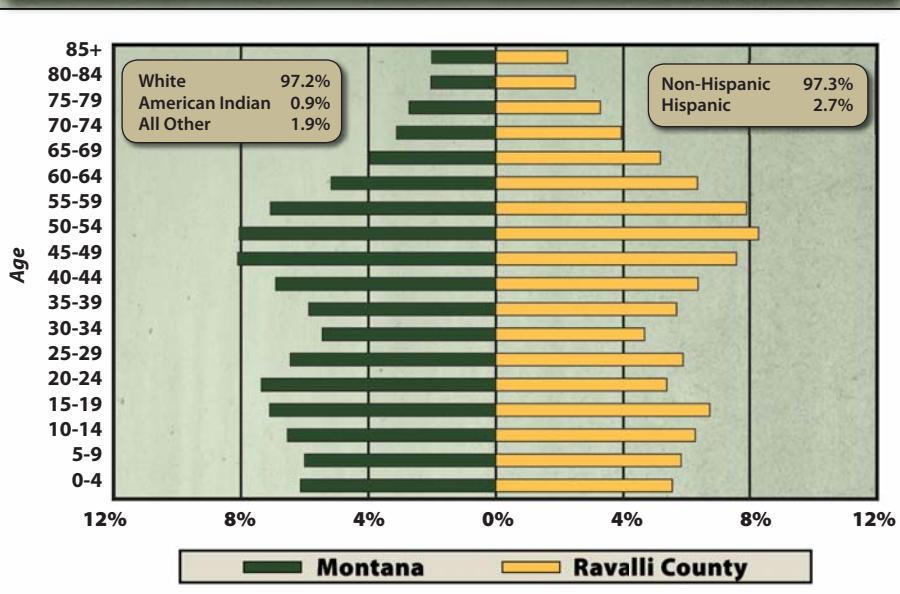
**Bitterroot Job Service Workforce Center**  
333 W. Main Street  
Hamilton, MT 59840  
Ph: 406-363-1822,  
Website: [jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/hamilton](http://jsd.dli.mt.gov/local/hamilton)

## Population for Ravalli County & Related Areas

Geography	% Change 2000-2007	Population Estimates							Census April 1, 2000
		July 1, 2007	July 1, 2006	July 1, 2005	July 1, 2004	July 1, 2003	July 1, 2002	July 1, 2001	
Ravalli County	12.0%	40,396	39,836	39,268	38,950	38,336	37,423	36,748	36,070
Darby town	20.1%	853	838	821	805	777	745	723	710
Hamilton city	26.6%	4,691	4,562	4,373	4,298	4,141	3,929	3,827	3,705
Pinesdale town	10.4%	819	811	803	805	796	780	753	742
Stevensville town	26.7%	1,967	1,879	1,825	1,810	1,775	1,716	1,633	1,553
Balance of Ravalli	9.2%	32,066	31,746	31,446	31,232	30,847	30,253	29,812	29,360

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Estimates Program

## Distribution of Population by Age Montana and Ravalli County, 2007



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Population Estimates

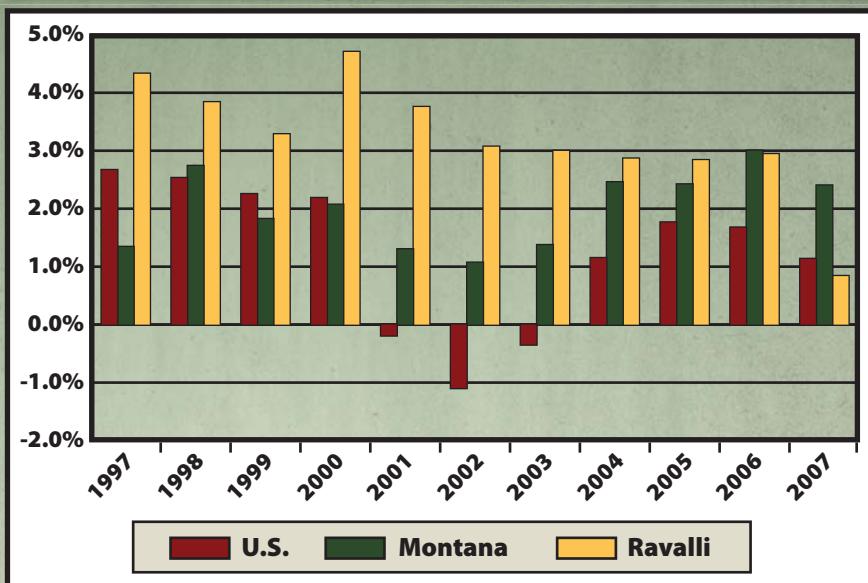
## Highest Level of Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and older)

Educational Attainment	Ravalli County	Montana	U.S.
Less than High School Diploma	12.6%	12.8%	19.6%
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	31.5%	31.3%	28.6%
Some College	28.2%	25.6%	21.0%
Associate Degree	5.2%	5.9%	6.3%
Bachelor's Degree	15.9%	17.2%	15.5%
Master's Degree	3.6%	4.6%	5.9%
Professional Degree	1.4%	1.7%	2.0%
Doctoral Degree	1.7%	0.9%	1.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Percent Change in Employment: 1997 to 2007

U.S., Montana, and Ravalli County



Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

### Top 20 Private Employers in Ravalli County

(Based on 2nd Quarter 2008 Data - Listed in Alphabetical Order)

Business Name	Size Class	Business Name	Size Class
A 2 Z Personnel-Nolan Temps	5	North Valley Health Care Center	5
Albertson's	5	Pioneer Log Homes	5
Apex Human Resources	6	Ravalli Services Corp.	5
Discovery Care Centre	5	Rocky Mountain Log Homes	5
Earth and Wood Craftsmen	5	Selway Corporation	6
Farmers State Bank	6	Specialty Surgical Products	5
GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals	7	Stock Farm Club	6
Kmart	5	Super 1 Foods	6
Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital	7	Triple Creek Ranch	5
McDonald's	5	Valley View Estates Health Care Center	5

Employment Size Class Coding: Class 9 = 1000+ employees, Class 8 = 500 to 999 employees, Class 7 = 250 to 499 employees, Class 6 = 100 to 249 employees, Class 5 = 50 to 99 employees, Class 4 = 20 to 49 employees, Class 3 = 10 to 19 employees

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW) This list includes ONLY private industry employers subject to unemployment insurance. Railroads and government agencies are excluded.

# Agricultural Statistics - Ravalli County

Farms			
	2007 Census	2002 Census	% Change
<b>Farms: (number)</b>	1,532	1,441	6%
Land in farms (acres)	262,872	245,133	7%
Average size of farms (acres)	172	170	1%
Median size of farms (acres)	24	32	-25%
<b>Farms by size: (number)</b>			
Less than 1,000 acres	1,491	1,388	7%
1,000 acres or more	41	53	-23%
<b>Farms by value of products sold: (number)</b>			
Less than \$100,000	1,471	1,381	7%
\$100,000 or more	61	60	2%
<b>Farms by type of organization: (number)</b>			
Family, Individual, Partnership	1,420	1,358	5%
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	112	83	35%
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested			
<b>Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)</b>			
Cattle and calves	34,392	33,846	2%
Hogs and pigs	237	854	-72%
Sheep and lambs	4,475	4,473	0%
Horses and ponies	5,038	4,927	2%
Bison	(D)	44	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	2,954	2,263	31%
<b>Crops Harvested (acres)</b>			
Corn for grain	(D)	0	NA
Corn for silage or greenchop	468	292	60%
Wheat for grain, All	1,501	1,789	-16%
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	758	(D)
Spring wheat for grain	(D)	1,031	(D)
Durum wheat for grain	0	0	NA
Oats for grain	455	742	-39%
Barley for grain	1,223	1,262	-3%
Hay, haylage, grass silage	34,779	44,256	-21%
Sunflower seed, All	0	0	NA
Operator Demographics			
<b>Primary occupation: (number)</b>			
Farming	659	745	-12%
Other	873	696	25%
<b>Place of residence: (number)</b>			
On farm operated	1,405	1,339	5%
Not on farm operated	127	102	25%
<b>Years on present farm: (number)</b>			
Less than 10 years	494	524	-6%
10 years or more	1,038	917	13%
<b>Age group: (number)</b>			
Under 55 years	614	673	-9%
55 years and over	918	768	20%
<b>Average age of operators: (number)</b>	58.5	56.6	3%

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2002

(D) - Not Disclosable

## Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2007

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRIES	1,593	11,355	\$28,236
TOTAL PRIVATE	1,532	9,348	\$26,581
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING	57	186	\$26,546
Crop production	9	47	\$24,269
Animal production	11	50	\$21,529
Forestry and logging	21	62	\$28,354
Agriculture & forestry support	17	28	\$35,496
MINING	4	6	\$38,109
Mining, except oil and gas	3	*	*
Support activities for mining	1	*	*
UTILITIES	5	39	\$61,872
CONSTRUCTION	335	1,059	\$31,350
Construction of buildings	109	351	\$36,367
Heavy and civil engineering construction	18	40	\$42,205
Specialty trade contractors	207	668	\$28,064
MANUFACTURING	86	1,032	\$35,932
Food manufacturing	7	60	\$17,255
Beverage and tobacco product mfg	1	*	*
Textile mills	1	*	*
Textile product mills	2	*	*
Leather and allied product manufacturing	3	7	\$11,431
Wood product manufacturing	20	496	\$43,349
Printing and related support activities	3	8	\$20,378
Chemical manufacturing	1	*	*
Plastics & rubber products manufacturing	2	*	*
Nonmetallic mineral product mfg	4	*	*
Primary metal manufacturing	1	*	*
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	14	210	\$36,955
Machinery manufacturing	2	*	*
Computer and electronic product mfg	2	*	*
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg	1	*	*
Transportation equipment manufacturing	2	*	*
Furniture and related product mfg	12	37	\$20,102
Miscellaneous manufacturing	8	69	\$27,153
WHOLESALE TRADE	77	266	\$43,863
Merchant wholesalers, durable goods	31	161	\$47,457
Merchant wholesalers, nondurable goods	15	52	\$35,796
Electronic markets & agents and brokers	31	53	\$40,900
RETAIL TRADE	172	1,553	\$19,647
Motor vehicle and parts dealers	21	152	\$26,982
Furniture and home furnishings stores	17	90	\$19,743
Electronics and appliance stores	6	*	*
Building material & garden supply stores	30	227	\$24,277
Food and beverage stores	18	475	\$17,657
Health and personal care stores	14	138	\$28,133
Gasoline stations	16	159	\$12,915
Clothing and clothing accessories stores	9	65	\$16,368
Sporting good, hobby, book, music stores	15	68	\$11,271
General merchandise stores	3	*	*
Miscellaneous store retailers	15	56	\$12,074

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages Program (QCEW)

\* Data Not Disclosable

## Employment by Industry - Annual Averages 2007

Industry	Number of Establishments	Average Annual Employment	Annual Wages Per Job
Nonstore retailers	9	24	\$28,825
TRANSPORTATION AND WAREHOUSING	58	235	\$28,437
Air transportation	3	11	\$47,407
Truck transportation	25	115	\$30,939
Transit and ground passenger transport	3	46	\$10,301
Support activities for transportation	24	60	\$34,180
Couriers and messengers	3	3	\$25,291
INFORMATION	21	97	\$23,756
Publishing industries, except Internet	6	29	\$12,337
Motion picture, sound recording industry	4	18	\$13,119
Broadcasting, except Internet	2	*	*
Telecommunications	6	36	\$41,383
ISPs, search portals, & data processing	1	*	*
Other information services	3	*	*
FINANCE AND INSURANCE	64	391	\$37,694
Credit intermediation & related activity	23	261	\$35,986
Securities, comm. contracts, investments	12	*	*
Insurance carriers & related activities	28	106	\$36,190
REAL ESTATE AND RENTAL AND LEASING	61	117	\$19,212
Real estate	52	96	\$21,267
Rental and leasing services	10	21	\$9,898
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	130	561	\$46,405
Professional and technical services	130	561	\$46,405
MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES AND ENTERPRISES	4	14	\$41,272
ADMINISTRATIVE AND WASTE SERVICES	63	634	\$22,276
Administrative and support services	59	*	*
Waste management and remediation service	4	*	*
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	12	94	\$19,676
HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE	105	1,198	\$28,108
Ambulatory health care services	70	381	\$35,476
Hospitals	1	338	\$32,657
Nursing and residential care facilities	8	264	\$21,749
Social assistance	26	*	*
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, AND RECREATION	48	379	\$15,793
Performing arts and spectator sports	8	*	*
Museums, historical sites, zoos, & parks	1	*	*
Amusements, gambling, and recreation	39	354	\$15,503
ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES	107	1,028	\$11,028
Accommodation	22	157	\$15,714
Food services and drinking places	84	871	\$10,185
OTHER SERVICES	126	460	\$19,363
Repair and maintenance	45	152	\$27,451
Personal and laundry services	25	69	\$15,094
Membership associations & organizations	39	194	\$13,351
Private households	18	45	\$24,624
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	61	2,008	\$35,942
Local Government	33	1,377	\$27,403
State Government	10	135	\$41,428
Federal Government	19	496	\$58,145

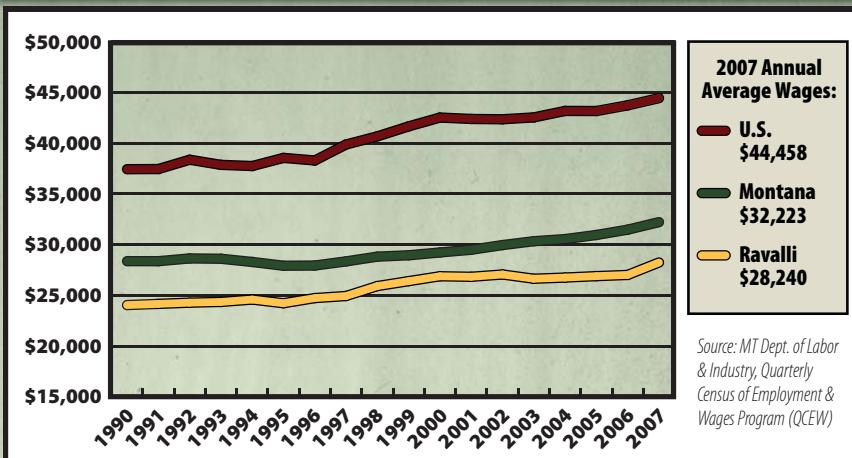
The QCEW program compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. (Totals may not add due to nondisclosure of confidential industry data or to rounding.)

## Annual Average Labor Force - Ravalli County

Year	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
2007	18,657	17,912	745	4.0%
2006	18,685	17,943	742	4.0%
2005	18,360	17,533	827	4.5%
2004	18,065	17,158	907	5.0%
2003	17,776	16,826	950	5.3%
2002	17,463	16,548	915	5.2%
2001	17,309	16,447	862	5.0%
2000	17,105	16,197	908	5.3%

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS)

## Annual Average Wages, 1990 to 2007 (In 2007 Dollars)



## Per Capita Personal Income, 1990 to 2006 (In 2006 Dollars)

